

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: PAPER II

Time: 3 hours

100 marks

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

1. This question paper consists of 8 pages. Please check that your question paper is complete.
 2. Utilise your reading time carefully, ensuring that the selections made showcase your ability to share your response to the texts.
 3. Questions must be answered in **BOTH SECTIONS**. In **SECTION A**, Question 1 is **compulsory** and then answer **ONE** question on the selected novel. In **SECTION B**, Question 6 is **compulsory**, and then answer **either** Question 7 **or** Question 8.
 4. Ensure that you number your questions as indicated on the question paper.
 5. **Begin each QUESTION on a new page.** Do not copy down headings for your answers. Copy down **only** the question numbers, making sure they are accurate.
 6. You may answer the questions in whatever order you wish, but number your answers exactly as the questions are numbered.
 7. Ensure that **you include a word count** at the end of your mini-essay (Question 1) **only. No word count is required for Questions 2 to 8.**
 8. You are encouraged to give your own judgements. Attempt to create space in which your **own voice** can be evident. The examiners will judge your answers on your understanding of, and insight into given texts, and will also assess the competence with which your answers are expressed.
 9. Take care to follow instructions in each question.
 10. Answers must be written only in the Answer Book supplied.
 11. It is in your own interest to write legibly and to present your work neatly.
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SECTION A LITERATURE**QUESTION 1****SHAKESPEARE *CORIOLANUS*****THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY**

Study the following appraisal by G. Wilson Knight and then write a mini-essay in response to the topic that follows:

"Coriolanus is a thing complete, a rounded perfection. Yet, he tries **desperately to find his way**. His wars are not for Rome: they are an end in themselves ... so he whirls around in the dark chaos of his pride ... a blind, mechanic, **metallic thing of pride** and pride's destiny." (G. Wilson Knight in *Cambridge School Shakespeare*. Rex Gibson(ed), page 247)

TOPIC:

Consider whether Wilson Knight's assessment of Coriolanus as a **metallic thing of pride** trying **desperately to find his way** is an accurate assessment of the character.

Please note:

- The length of your response must be approximately **450 words**.
- Your knowledge of Shakespeare's text, *Coriolanus*, and your ability to structure and substantiate your stance in order to develop a **tightly constructed argument** will be assessed.
- **Close** and **relevant** reference to the play is **essential**.
- **Please be aware that you will be penalised should your essay be longer than 500 words.**
- **Please provide an accurate word count at the end of your essay.**

[30]**AND**

NOVELS**WASHINGTON SQUARE or AMERICANAH**

Answer **ONE** question on your selected novel.

Answer **EITHER**

Question 2 (*Washington Square*)

OR

Question 3 (*Washington Square*)

OR

Question 4 (*Americanah*)

OR

Question 5 (*Americanah*)

Please note:

- Your response must be in the form of a well-structured literary essay.
- Your ability to select detail from the novel, in order to develop a **succinct argument**, which is clearly focused and perceptive, will be assessed.
- Your essay should be **approximately 600 words** in length.
- **Close and relevant** reference to the text in the question is **essential**.
- Do **NOT** provide a word count at the end of your essay.

EITHER

QUESTION 2**WASHINGTON SQUARE (Henry James)**

Read the following:

Author John Hawkes commented that "the true enemy of the novel is plot, character, setting and theme, and having once abandoned these familiar ways of thinking about fiction ... structure is really all that remained. And structure ... is still my largest concern as a writer." (John Hawkes – <www.goodreads.com>)

TOPIC:

Consider John Hawkes's ideas on the novel and judge whether **structure** in *Washington Square* is Henry James's largest and most important means to drive the message of the novel.

[30]

OR

QUESTION 3**WASHINGTON SQUARE (Henry James)**

The book blurb on the dustcover of the Dover Thrift Edition (2008) states: "James explores ... with masterly storytelling skill the **moral consequences of the callous* exploitation of trust** and the **ruthless manipulation** of a tender heart." (Henry James. 2008. *Washington Square*. Dover Thrift Edition)

* *callous*: cold-hearted, cruel

TOPIC:

In a carefully reasoned essay, argue whether **exploitation of trust and ruthless manipulation** result in Catherine's **despair** and **whether despair opens up an opportunity for greater awareness of self**.

[30]**OR****QUESTION 4****AMERICANAH (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)**

Read the following:

Author John Hawkes commented that "the true enemy of the novel is plot, character, setting and theme, and having once abandoned these familiar ways of thinking about fiction ... structure is really all that remained. And structure ... is still my largest concern as a writer." (John Hawkes – <www.goodreads.com>)

TOPIC:

Consider John Hawkes's ideas on the novel and judge whether **structure** in *Americanah* is Adichie's largest and most important means to drive the message of the novel.

[30]**OR****QUESTION 5****AMERICANAH (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)**

Stefanie Reuter, in her study of *Americanah*, explains that Adichie's novel explores the need to **shape identity**, in particular a different African identity of a **black woman** in a world where it becomes essential to **challenge black stereotypes**.

(Reuter, Stefanie. 2015. "Becoming a Subject: Developing a Critical Consciousness and Coming to Voice in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*". Humbolt University, Berlin.)

TOPIC:

In a carefully reasoned essay, argue whether Ifemelu **re-evaluates** her identity as a **black woman** and by so doing challenges **black stereotypes**.

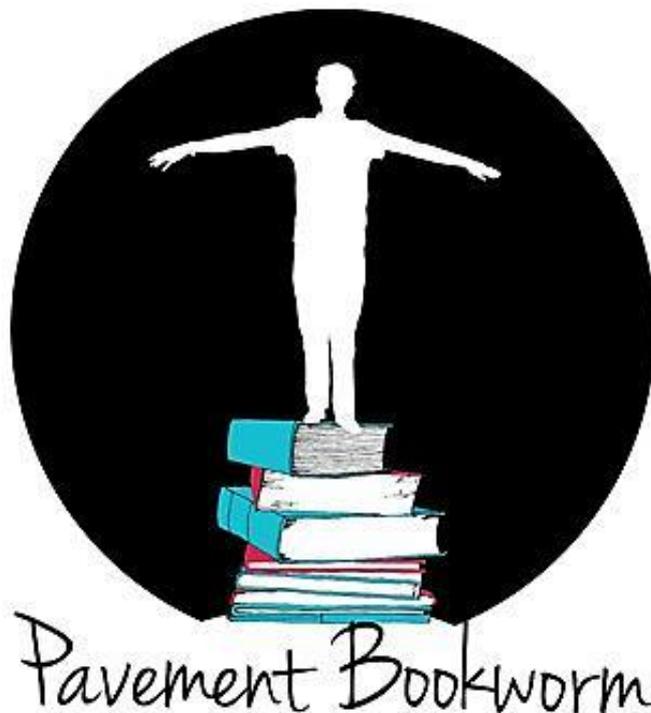
[30]**60 marks**

SECTION B TRANSACTIONAL WRITING: SHORT PIECES**Please note:**

- Answer **TWO** of the following questions.
- You must answer **Question 6 (compulsory)** and then answer **either Question 7 or Question 8**.
- The body of your response should be **approximately 250 to 300 words** in length.
- Remember to pay attention to the **register** and purpose of your text.
- It is essential that the **appropriate format** is used.

QUESTION 6**THIS QUESTION IS COMPULSORY**

Study the image below, read the extract on the following page, and then answer the question that follows:

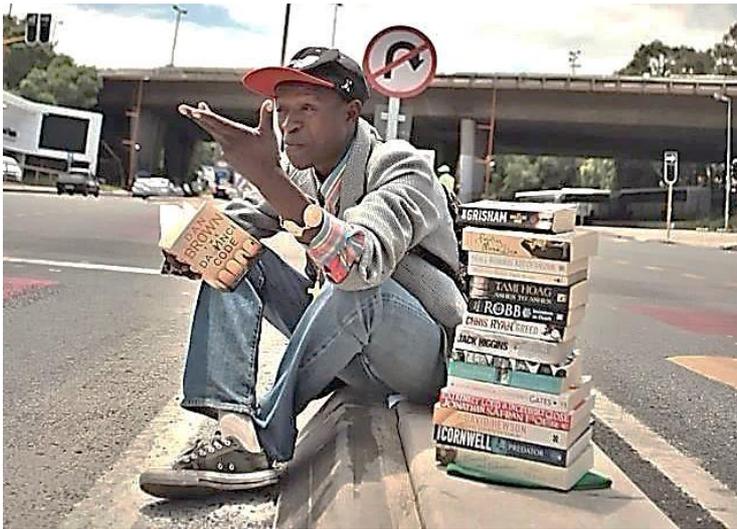


[Please turn over for the extract]

"You don't have to be rich to save the world, " – Philani Dladla, The Pavement Bookworm

Meet Philani Dladla, a.k.a. the Pavement Bookworm. He's 24 and lives in Johannesburg, South Africa, and his story is quite incredible.

He developed a passion for books from a young age. Growing up, he would read anything and everything he could get his hands on. Receiving his first stack of books at the age of nine from his



mother's employer, Dladla was (at the time) reading only in his home language, Zulu. As the books were all in English, he chose to forgo toys in order to study English so that the books could open up a new world to him: a world of adventure and intrigue. Today he proudly reviews and sells books on Empire Road, sharing the contents with passers by and making a living in a unique way. He spends most of his day reading on the corner, at times reading even to strangers and then begins to share his magic. He has

become a familiar sight and people stop by to give him books which he keeps, reads and then shares. "Words are capable of changing the world," he says. "I have learnt that words can cut you down with hatred but they can also transform."

[Adapted from: <www.thepavementbookworm.co.za>]

You have often seen the pavement bookworm, Philani Dladla, on your way to school in the morning while he reads and explores books on the street corner. His story has gone viral. Exclusive Books has set up a webpage (<www.thepavementbookworm.co.za>) so that Dladla can share his message to a wider audience. On the webpage, an email link has been established for visitors to communicate with the Pavement Bookworm. As a school leaver, you have decided **to email him** to share your **sincere feelings** about how **words have impacted on your life**.

Please note:

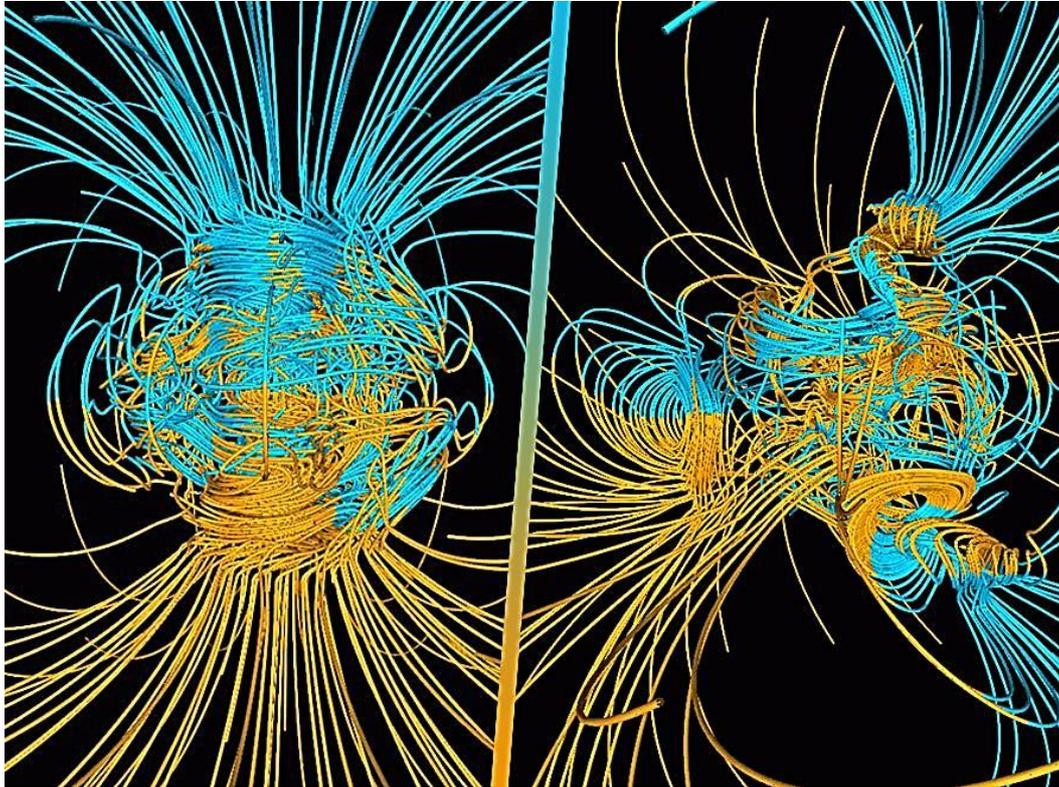
- The purpose of the e-mail is to share your **sincere** feelings about the power of words on any platform (either positively or negatively) and not to review books.
- Email address: pavementbookworm@gmail.com

[20]

AND

BOTH QUESTION 7 AND QUESTION 8 ARE BASED ON THE VISUAL AND EXTRACT BELOW.

Earth's magnetic poles could be about to flip



Scientists are 'abuzz' with the discovery that the Earth's magnetic field is rapidly getting weaker. This could be a sign that the poles are going to switch – and north would become south.

The sun will rise tomorrow morning; time will keep marching forwards; a compass will always point north towards the Arctic Circle.

Or will it? Last week, two scientists wrote an article in *The Conversation* noting that the Earth's magnetic field has been losing strength at 'an alarming rate' for the last 160 years. They believe it is related to an 'anomaly' in the area above southern Africa, where the field has become so weak that it no longer properly shields satellites from radiation.

This is not too alarming — the magnetic field is created by molten iron moving around the Earth's liquid core, which means it is always fluctuating. But the scientists think it could be a sign that the magnetic poles could be preparing to flip. That trusty compass would go haywire; during the process of switching (which may itself take over 100 years) the Earth would have multiple north and south poles. When it is over, the compass would point firmly towards Antarctica. In other words, the Earth is due a switch. Potential scenarios include everything from global electricity blackouts and economic collapse, to confused pigeons losing their ability to fly home. One day north will be south. And it is exciting! That impermanence and possibility is what life is made of.

[Adapted from: "Flipping Magnetic Poles" <www.theday.uk>]

Answer **EITHER Question 7 OR Question 8.**

QUESTION 7

As a South African you are **excited, or perhaps alarmed**, that "north will be south". Write **a letter to the editor** to appear in *The Conversation* (P.O. Box 9369, Cape Town 2987) where you consider what it would mean as a South African that **you are now no longer at the southern tip of the world**. Your approach in the letter may be serious, or humorous.

[20]

OR

QUESTION 8

You came across the article entitled "Earth's magnetic poles could be about to flip" (on the previous page). You **are unsure** whether this is **a real story or fake news**. (Fake news is a deliberate spread of misinformation which uses eye-catching headlines or entirely fabricated news-stories in order to increase readership and online sharing). Write **a blog** entitled **TOO TRUE FOR WORDS** where you explore your views on **news and fake news**.

[20]

40 marks

Total: 100 marks